

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Develop
a Risk-Based Decision-Making Framework
to Evaluate Safety and Reliability
Improvements and Revise the General
Rate Case Plan for Energy Utilities.

Rulemaking 13-11-006

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline for this proceeding to March 15, 2019.

1. Background

The Commission approved Order Instituting Rulemaking 13-11-006 at its Business Meeting on November 14, 2013. The version of Pub. Util. Code § 701.5(a)¹ then in effect required quasi-legislative proceedings such as this one to be resolved within 18 months from the date the Scoping Memo is issued, unless the Commission establishes an alternative deadline in the Scoping Memo or issues an order extending the deadline. The Scoping Memo for this proceeding was issued on May 15, 2014, establishing a statutory deadline of November 13, 2015 for resolving this proceeding.

¹ This proceeding was initiated prior to changes made to Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a). These changes only apply to quasi-legislative and ratemaking proceedings that commence after December 31, 2016.

On November 2, 2015, the assigned Commissioner and assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued an amended scoping memo, which among other things extended the statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding by an additional 18 months, to May 2, 2017.

On March 17, 2017, the assigned Commissioner and assigned ALJ issued a second amended scoping memo, which among other things extended the statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding by an additional 18 months, to September 15, 2018.

This rulemaking has remained open in order to consider issues regarding the length of the general rate case cycle, and other possible changes to the RCP to promote more efficient and effective management of GRC proceedings. The Commission's Energy Division conducted a workshop on January 11, 2017 to address the issues involved in moving to a longer GRC cycle. The Energy Division subsequently prepared a workshop report regarding whether a longer GRC cycle is worth pursuing. Parties filed comments on the workshop report on April 5, 2018, followed by reply comments on April 19, 2018.

A proposed decision (PD) that addresses the recommendations in the workshop report, and parties' comments on those recommendations, is expected to be issued before the end of 2018. Therefore, to ensure sufficient time for parties to comment on the PD, and to ensure that the Commission has sufficient time to consider the PD and issue a final decision, the statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding is extended to March 15, 2019.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving quasi-legislative proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment is waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Clifford R. Rechtschaffen is the assigned Commissioner and Stephen C. Roscow is the assigned ALJ for this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding is September 15, 2018.
2. A proposed decision that resolves this proceeding is expected to be issued for public review and comment before the end of 2018.
3. An extension of the statutory deadline is necessary to ensure that there is sufficient time for the Commission to issue a proposed decision consider comments on the proposed decision and issue a final decision.

Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission by Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline for resolving this quasi-legislative proceeding should be extended to March 15, 2019.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The statutory deadline for this proceeding is extended to March 15, 2019.

2. Rulemaking 13-11-006 remains open.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____, at San Francisco, California.